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UNCLAS SANTIAGO 001632

SIPDIS

STATE FOR R/MR, I/PP, WHA/BSC, WHA/PDA, INR/IAA, PM,  
INL  
STATE FOR INR/R/MR, NEA/PDA  
AMEMBASSY FOR PAO, IO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [OPRC](#) [PTER](#) [CI](#) [UK](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - IRA DECLARATION ON END TO  
ARMED STRUGGLE

1. On August 1, business and financial "Diario  
Financiero" (circ. 20,000) carried a commentary by  
international analyst Libardo Buitrago entitled, "IRA:  
A Timely Announcement." Quote:

"The Irish Republican Army (IRA)...handled the timing  
very well, because in the current high season for  
terrorism a political decision of this kind opens doors  
that they were unable to open with weapons. Efforts  
must now be made to earn and build trust, a fundamental  
pillar for the future of a united Ireland. The  
repercussions of the IRA's decision will go beyond the  
direct impact it will have on millions of people. For  
the British government...it means that it can now use  
its security forces to fully fight Islamic terrorism."

2. On August 1, business and financial "Diario  
Financiero" (circ. 20,000) ran an editorial entitled,  
"End to 30 Years of Violence." Quote:

"The IRA's decision is a concrete expression of reason  
and common sense that is even more appreciated given  
the fear and terror sowed by Al Qaeda in the United  
States and several European capital cities.... As in  
any conflict, while the goals of all those involved  
might be understandable, the only weapon that can be  
used to reach those goals is a peaceful, political  
struggle within the framework of democracy."

KELLY